(b) if so, the action taken?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) A letter has" been received from the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh suggesting, inter-alia, that selection of villages for rural roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) should be left to the State Government subject to the overall Guidelines of the Programme.

(b) The Proposals for taking up of road works are made by the State Government, subject to the overall Guidelines of the Programme.

Shortage of potable water in summer

† 1304. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh identified by Central Government where the problem regarding shortage of potable water is likely to occur in summer season of this year;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of such villages;

(c) whether Government are considering to provide Central assistance in order to provide potable water in these affected villages; and

(d) if so, the total Central assistance Govemment have decided to provide to each of the above States for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE rN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA): (a) and (b) As per information received, the State Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh h3ve identified over 35,000 and 9,000 habitations respectively, where the problem of shortage of drinking water is likely to occur in the summer season of this year.

(c) and (d) Rural Drinking Water is a State subject. Government of India supplements the efforts of the States by providing financial assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Powers to plan, sanction and implement schemes/projects under these programmes have been delegated to States. During the year 2000-2001, for rural drinking water supply, under ARWSP, a sum of Rs. 95.29 crores and under Prime Minister's Gramodaya Yoajna (PMGY) — Rural Drinking Water, a sum of Rs. 8.5327 crores has been released to Madhya Pradesh. Further, during 2000-2001, under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF), inter-

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

alia which also include restoration of drinking water supply system in rural areas during natural calamities, a sum of Rs. 67.58 crores and Rs. 35.00 crores, respectively, have been released to Madhya Pradesh.

Similarly, during the year 2000-2001. for rural drinking water supply, under ARWSP, a sum of Rs. 15.80 crores has been released to Chhattisgarh. Under Prime Minister's Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY), which has five sectors, namely primary health, primary education, shelter, rural drinking water and nutrition, a sum of Rs. 31.40 crores has been allocated to newly created Chhattisgarh State. As per provision, a minimum 15% of the total allocation of the PMGY is earmarked for each sector and out of remaining 25%, the State is free to allocate among five sectors as per its priority. Further, during 2000-2001, a sum of Rs. 20.60 crores under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and Rs. 40.00 crores under National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) have been released to Chhattisgarh.

Keeping in view the prevailing scarcity of drinking water in rural areas due to deficient rainfall during last monsoon in eight States, which also include, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, the priorities fixed in the guidelines relating to ARWSP and PMGY—Rural Drinking Water have been relaxed to the extent that the funds under ARWSP and PMGY—Rural Drinking Water could also be utilised for activities relating to repair, rejuvenation, renovation, restoration and replacement of existing rural drinking water schemes in areas affected by scarcity of drinking water in these States.

Criteria for Rural Roads Scheme

† 1305. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted by Government for Rural Roads Scheme announced by Prime Minister;

(b) the name of the agency which is going to undertake construction work under the scheme; and

(c) the manner in which Government have ensured by participation of Members of Parliament in the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKA1AH NAIDU): (a) The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) envisages connecting all Habitations with a population of over 1000 persons through

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